

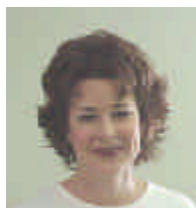
HEAD LINES

Spring 2003



Brain Injury Services Unit
Division of Mental Health
Dept. for Mental Health & Mental Retardation Services
100 Fair Oaks Lane 4W-C
Frankfort, Kentucky 40621
(502) 564-3615
(502) 564-0304 FAX

Brain Injury Services Welcomes Diane Pratt!



Diane Pratt,
Program Administrator

Diane Pratt joined BISU in December as Program Administrator. She was a Program Specialist with the Department of Community Based Services for one year, and acted as a consultant to adult services. Prior to her position with DCBS, she was a medical social worker for 19 years at Frankfort Regional Medical Center. She has also had five years experience in an MR/DD adult facility. She has worked as a liaison with the medical and rehabilitation community throughout her career and is looking forward to meeting everyone involved in working with people with brain injuries. Diane says she is very happy to be at the Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services and working in the Brain Injury Services Unit!

Provider Spotlight *Stepping Stones Communities*

In July of 2002, Kerrie Johnson, OTR/L and former Brain Injury Program Director for Frazier Rehab Center in Louisville and Joan Owens, longtime administrator of community-based waiver services joined their years of expertise with the Christian Church Homes of Kentucky to develop Stepping Stones Communities as a transitional residential living and community-integrated treatment program. The development of the program has been a very exciting undertaking for everyone involved and with their blend of service and treatment backgrounds and the strength and reputation of the Christian Church Homes of KY behind them, they feel that they now have a model program with comprehensive community integrative treatment to offer individuals who come to them for their services.



At this time, they are certified by the Cabinet for Health Services through the Brain Injury Services Unit to provide waiver services, as outlined on page 2. They have employed a dynamic treatment team with a vast array of experience and are committed to meeting quality standards and to working toward positive outcomes for each individual served.

All treatment services will be provided in community settings that are appropriate to the clients individualized goals. Residential services will be provided in our four newly constructed group homes and staffed residences. You may see photos of these homes by visiting The Christian Church Homes' website at www.cchk.org and going to the Stepping Stones Communities link.

continued on page 2

New Providers/Additional Services

Eckman/Freeman & Associates, Louisville

New provider: Case Management Services

Stepping Stones Communities, Louisville

New provider: Companion Services, Structured Day, Occupational Therapy, Respite, Speech, Hearing, and Language Services, Residential Services

Stepping Stones, continued

Mission:

Stepping Stones' mission is to empower persons with acquired brain so they can achieve the greatest level of independence possible. They assist persons in acquiring skills and compensatory strategies so they can rejoin society as productive citizens who can once again contribute to their communities.



Program:

Stepping Stones Communities is a community-based treatment program that provides transitional therapeutic services for individuals who are 18-years old and older who have survived an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI). The Louisville-based program can assist 20 ABI survivors at a time in homes that offer 24-hour staff supervision.

Every aspect of each individual's program is therapeutic. Offering the program in home settings within local communities, rather than in a clinical environment, helps maintain the personal dignity of each client, while allowing him or her to experience daily situations in real life settings.

While no two persons with ABI are alike, an individual typically requires comprehensive services in a home within a residential community for six months to a year to achieve physical, emotional, cognitive and behavioral benefits. Clients may progress to trial apartment living as they move through the program before returning to a permanent residence.

Program Goals:

- To transition clients with ABI from 24-hour, supervised living to supported or independent living with community supports, as needed.
- To transition clients with ABI from having little or no productive role in the community, to enjoying regular participation in paid employment, school or other productive activities.

Clinical Services Include: Companion services, counseling services, internal case management, occupational therapy, residential services, respite, speech/language pathology, structured day program, and supported employment.

Support services include: transportation, medication administration, and assistance with activities of daily living.

Their team of skilled professionals will determine which services each client needs to reach his or her highest potential. The team will work with other agencies and programs that already serve the client, or develop new alliances to provide maximum support.

The information for this Provider Spotlight was submitted by Stepping Stones Communities. If you would like your agency featured in a future newsletter, please contact Susan Tatum at (502) 564-3615.



For admissions information, please call Program Director Kerrie Johnson at (502) 245-3774, ext. 103 or Executive Director, Joan Owens at (502) 3774, ext. 104. You can also call toll-free at (866)222-7747 or email kjohnson@bellsouth.net or jowensssc@bellsouth.net

Stones Communities would like to extend to all

an invitation to attend an

Open House Celebration on Thursday, March 13, 2003 from 2-5 (EST) at their offices on 618 Bellewood Road in Middletown.

Please call for more information.

Friendly Reminders for Case Managers

The following are helpful hints and/or reminders to help ensure uninterrupted services to ABI Medicaid Waiver recipients:

Monthly Reporting:

Please provide to our office on a monthly basis your caseload information; this is required by regulation. New forms for 2003 will be faxed or emailed to you.

New ABI Waiver Clients:

When contacted by a person stating they have an allocation of funding for the ABI Waiver program, you must see a copy of the allocation letter issued by our office or call us to verify that the person indeed has an allocation.

Emergency Regulations

Please refer to the emergency regulations referred to in a recent mailing. These can be accessed on the web at <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/staterev/frontpg/htm> (901 KAR 3:090E). A copy of a revised incident report was also mailed which now requires reporting by the provider agency to the Cabinet for Families and Children, DCBS, immediately upon discovery. If you did not receive this information, please call Susan Tatum in our office for a copy.

HIPAA Update Compliance Deadline Nears!



PRIVACY SEGMENT

Please be aware that compliance with HIPAA Privacy & Confidentiality Standards is required by April 14th of this year! The Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services (DMHMRS) web-site, <http://dmhmrs.chr.state.ky.us/hipaa.asp#hippa>, can be accessed to answer any remaining questions you have concerning HIPAA compliance. As an ABI Medicaid Waiver Provider, per your Business Associate agreement, you are expected to adhere to the same standards as DMHMRS as to protected health information. It is imperative that you understand and implement practices which assure you are HIPAA compliant!

The Department for Medicaid Services web-site offers information and links to make sure you are ready. Please visit the FAQ site <http://chs.state.ky.us/dms/HIPAA/faq/default.htm>, and also the UNISYS web-site, <http://www.kymmris.com/prl/hipaa.htm> to find answers to your questions. Finally, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) web-site has much information to offer regarding HIPAA and how it relates to you: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/hipaa/hipaa2/default.asp>

SECURITY SEGMENT

The HIPAA security rules will become effective for enforcement purposes in April 2005. The security rules can be viewed at the CMS web-site at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/hipaa/hipaa2/default.asp>

ABI Waiver Waiting List Regs

The BISU is currently maintaining a statewide waiting list for the ABI Waiver Program. In order to be placed on the ABI Waiver waiting list, an individual must submit to the department a completed MAP-26 Application for ABI Waiver services and a MAP-4099, the physician's determination. The order of placement on the waiting list shall be determined by the chronological date the application and MAP-4099 are received in the BISU. Applicants will be notified by mail that their application has been received and their date of placement on the waiting list. Persons wishing to access ABI Waiver services will be allocated funding in the order in which they appear on the waiting list. Persons with emergency status will be allocated funding first.

Emergency status is determined by documentation that the applicant is demonstrating behavior related to his acquired brain injury that places the recipient, caregiver or others at risk of significant harm; or the individual is demonstrating behavior related to his brain injury which has resulted in his arrest. Supporting documentation must consist of a written statement by a physician or other qualified mental health professional, validating the risk of significant harm to the recipient or caregiver, or written documentation by law enforcement or court personnel validating the history of arrest.

The waiting list will be updated annually, during the birth month of the applicant. An applicant or legal representative may submit a request to move from one category of need to another at any time there is a change in the status of the individual.

Application forms for the ABI Waiver waiting list may be obtained from the BISU, by calling (502) 564-3615. Persons with brain injuries and their families may call toll free at (800) 374-9146.

TBI Trust Fund Emergency Criteria

A request for emergency assistance from the TBI Trust Fund may be made by or on behalf of an eligible applicant by contacting the program by phone at (800) 509-6277 or in writing at Eckman/Freeman, P.O. Box 436866, Louisville, KY 40253. The service plan review committee must convene within two working days from the receipt of an emergency request, in order to approve or deny emergency assistance. The following circumstances are considered for emergency assistance:

- the loss of an eligible applicant's caregiver; or
- the imminent loss of the eligible applicant's or recipient's home or community placement; or
- the loss of the eligible applicant's or recipient's service provider, if that loss results in an immediate threat to the health, welfare, or safety of the eligible applicant or recipient; or
- an immediate threat to the health, safety, or welfare of an applicant.

In an emergency, the service plan review committee may approve the distribution of benefits from the fund not to exceed \$2000. A case manager is assigned in the event there is a distribution of benefits from the fund, and in order to assist with a written service plan. An immediate family member may be paid from the fund to provide care to an applicant in an emergency, for a period not to exceed sixty days in any twelve month period. Payment to a family member may not exceed \$1000 in a thirty day period, or \$2000 for a sixty day period.



The Annual Brain Injury Summit is scheduled for April 17-18, 2003!

This years Summit features keynote speaker, Jackie Pflug, author of "Miles to Go Before I Sleep," the dramatic true story of a woman whose life was forever changed by a terrible tragedy and the inspiring choices she made to seek meaning from life experiences. Jackie has been featured on *Oprah*, *Phil Donahue*, and *People* magazine.

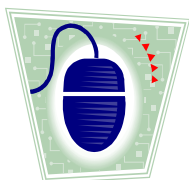
Registration begins on Thursday, April 17th at 7:30 followed by Welcome and opening comments by Pam Pearson and Scott Furkin. Jackie Pflug's Keynote will begin at 8:30am. Workshops begin at 10:30 and cover a wide array of topics of interest to those working with persons with brain injuries.

The Summit is again being held at Cardinal Hill Hospital on Versailles Road in Lexington. Please contact the Brain Injury Association of Kentucky at (502) 493-0609 for a brochure or further details.

Resources

New Eyes for the Needy

539 Millburn Avenue
Short Hills, NJ 07078
(973) 376-4903



An organization that provides glasses vouchers for person who need assistance. Simply write to them explaining the situation and need and they send a voucher.

Americans with Disabilities Website

There's a new one-stop website with access to information for Americans with Disabilities! The new White House website, DisabilityInfo.gov, contains information on civil rights, education, employment, housing, transportation, government benefits (including Social Security) and more. The website address is www.disabilityinfo.gov.

Prescription Drug Help

Medicare recipients with no prescription drug coverage may qualify for one of several prescription drug discount cards. The chart with toll-free numbers of various companies offering discount cards can be accessed at <http://chs.state.ky.us/Aging/programs/Prescription%Drug.htm>.

TRAINING

PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR SERIES

The following continuing education opportunities will be held at the Frazier Rehab Center in Louisville from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Wednesdays, 4th Floor Activity Room. For more information call (502) 582-7484.

Mar. 11 The VOCARE Bladder System

April 8 Vestibular System/Post Acute Rehab

May 13 Imperium Environmental Control Unit/
Technology Update

Sept. 12 Spinal Cord Injury Summit*

Oct. 14 Advanced Treatment of Spasticity

ABI CASE MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Please contact Alice Blackwell at (502) 564-3615 for more information and to sign-up for training.

Frazier is also offering inservices on the following topics- please contact Frazier at the above number for more information.

Mar. 7 Pediatric Brain Injury

May 1 Aphasia

July 3 Entitlement to Social Security Benefits

Sep 5 Suicide, and Medtronic Neurological Therapies-

**All day- Jewish Hospital Heart and Lung Conference Center*

BASIC TRAINING

The following trainings will be held tentatively at the Elizabethtown Tourism and Convention Center. Please contact BIAK at (502) 493-0609 to register or for more information. Location and dates are subject to change. Trainings are held from 8:30am-5:00pm.

Mar. 25-26

Apr. 29-30



Brain Injury Services Unit
100 Fair Oaks 4W-C
Frankfort KY 40621-0001



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